

Sale of parts of Centurian tanks

1396. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-
ment have recently sold to a Canadian
Jewish firm spare parts of Centurian
tanks for Rs. 70 lakhs which is one
tenth of their book value;

(b) whether it is also a fact that
an essential certificate required from
the end-users to the effect that the
spares would not fall into the hands
of the enemy or undesirable country
was also not obtained from the firm
and that the procedure required to
be followed in such deals was by-
passed;

(c) if so, whether any efforts were
made to find out an interested Indian
party and the considerations which
weighed with the Government to sell
the spares to a foreign firm at such
a low cost; and

(d) the reasons for by-passing the
procedure required to be followed in
such deals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI
SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (d). In
November 1979, a letter was address-
ed to a large number of parties, both
Indian and foreign as well as selected
Indian Embassies and High Commis-
sions requesting for offers separately
for the purchase of Centurian tanks,
spares and ammunition. The offers
received were mainly for tanks; there
were no meaningful offers for spares
and ammunition. Further enquiries
were subsequently made for the sale
of spares alone from parties who had
made offers for spares alongwith the
tanks or had shown interest in them.
The sale was concluded with a
Canadian Public Ltd. Company of
3000 tonnes of Spare Parts for
\$ 9000,000 (Rs. 70 lakhs approx.) The
book value of the total available
quantity of about 5000 tonnes of
spare parts representing their pur-
chase price was Rs. 6.40 crores. The
deal was negotiated following the

normal procedure, after obtaining
necessary approval and to the best
advantage of the Government. The
spares had become obsolete and could
have fetched only the metal scrap
value within the country. The price
realised was much more than the
value of metal scrap.

The sale was against an Interna-
tional Import Certificate issued by the
Canadian Government. The Canadian
High Commissioner in India had con-
firmed in writing that once the spares
reached Canada, re-export to third
countries needed an export permit
which was generally not given for ex-
port to states involved in, or under
imminent threat of hostilities and to
South Africa. The spares were ship-
ped on a vessel belonging to the Shipp-
ing Corporation of India with instruc-
tions to deliver them only at the
Canadian port. It was thus ensured
that these spare parts reached Canada
and would not be diverted or re-
exported to undesirable destinations.

Sale of Centurian Tanks

1397. SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV;
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD;
SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR;
PROF. A. K. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sold
a large number of Centurian tanks
declared obsolete;

(b) if so, the number of the Cen-
turian tanks which have been disposed
of giving their book value;

(c) the price at which the tanks
have been disposed of and the man-
ner in which these tanks have been
sold; and

(d) whether, before selling these
tanks Government had considered the
possibility of retrieving some of them
with the spares available? If not
why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI
SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (d). In

December, 1977, 120 obsolete Centurian tanks were sold at a price of \$ 21,000 each FOB Bombay, after they had been phased out from the Indian Weapon System. Having been phased out, there was no question of retrieving some of them with the available spares. The book value of these tanks was Rs. 6.13 lakhs each. The sale was concluded on the basis of competitive offers received from several prospective buyers.

Harassment to Employees of SC/ST Survey of India

1398. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAILANI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that planned harassment is being done to the employees of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes working in the Office of Survey of India, R. K. Puram, New Delhi;

(b) whether the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Employees Welfare Association represented against such harassment;

(c) if so, the number of cases of such harassment; and

(d) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b), (c), and (d). Representations have been received from two such Associations, viz., All India Federation of Scheduled Castes/Tribes, Backwards & Minorities Employees Welfare Associations (Regd.) New Delhi, and Survey of India Scheduled Castes/Tribes Employees Welfare Association, New Delhi, both unrecognised, against alleged non-observance of instructions relating to reservations for candidates belonging to SC/ST, alleged victimization and discrimination in promotion tests of SC/ST employees as well as certain individual cases of alleged prejudicial

attitude towards SC/ST employees. The points raised were carefully looked into and it was found that there was no substance in the allegations.

Thefts in Houses of Members of Parliament

1399. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of thefts in Delhi residences of Members of Parliament reported from January, 1980 to 15th October, 1980;

(b) the number of cases in which culprits have been apprehended; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a). 23 cases of thefts from the residences of Members of Parliament in Delhi were reported during this period.

(b) 21 persons have been arrested in 13 of these cases.

(c) The following steps have been taken:—

1. Mobile patrolling in the area has been intensified.
2. Special attention is paid to verification of antecedents of servants.
3. Pickets have been deputed at vulnerable points.
4. Motor cycle patrolling is done round the clock.

Fixation of Quota of Promotion from State Services to IAS and IPS

1400. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Administrative Reforms Commission unanimously recommended to fix quota of promotion from State Services to IAS and IPS at 40 per cent;

(b) whether Union Government have fixed this quota at 33-1/3 per cent only;